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ABSTRACT

A 353 demonstration project was conducted in Philadelphia for the following purposes: (1) to develop learner-relevant educational materials to stimulate basic literacy and critical thinking skills; (2) to foster empowerment in adult learners through voter participation; and (3) to produce a manual for increasing literacy skills through voter education. Adult learners in two community-based programs representative of Philadelphia's literacy network participated in developing the project by meeting at least six times to discuss, plan, and execute the project. A manual was produced based on the input of these adult learners. The manual was developed around the topics of how to register to vote, how to use a voting machine, and the candidates for the primary election. In addition, workshops were conducted for adult literacy providers and they, in turn, used the materials with their classes. As a result of the project, 17 students from participating literacy groups registered to vote and voted in the primary election. They felt they had gained more control of their lives and had more respect for the need for education. (The project report packet includes project materials such as workshop materials, field trip materials, lists of candidates, learner essays in Spanish, project publicity, and the manual (separately bound) developed during the project. The manual contains student materials for five lessons on the following topics: registering to vote, elections, voting machines, voting, and the need to vote, and a glossary.) (KC)

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ED 367 889

READING, WRITING AND REGISTERING: EMPOWERMENT THROUGH DEMOCRACY

Empowering Learners Through Education in the Democratic Process

FINAL REPORT

Donna Cooper, Executive Director
Ione Graves, Director of Education
The Mayor's Commission on Literacy
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

1992 - 1993

Project Number 98-3006

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EMPOWERING LEARNERS THROUGH EDUCATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

Final Report

Project Number: 98-3006

Grant Amount: $19,090

Fiscal Year: 1992-1993

Date Completed: June 30, 1993

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BUREAU OF ADULT BASIC AND LITERACY EDUCATION

Department of Education
Bureau of Adult Basic and Literacy Education
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Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

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Ione Graves, Director of Education

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EMPOWERING LEARNERS THROUGH EDUCATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

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ABSTRACT PAGE

Title: Empowering Learners Through Education in the Democratic Process
Project No.: 98-3006 Funding: $19,090
Project Director: Donna Cooper Phone No.: (215) 875-6602
Agency Address: Mayor's Commission on Literacy
1500 Walnut Street 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Description: The Mayor's Commission on Literacy proposed to assemble a compendium of materials which explained the voting process to adult learners and encouraged those learners to be active participants in our democracy. The MCOL, directed by the input of learners and educators from two community based literacy programs in Philadelphia, produced a collection of educational materials that dealt with issues of registering to vote, understanding materials published by and about candidates and the act of voting itself.

Objectives: The specific objectives were to: develop learner relevant educational materials to stimulate basic literacy and critical thinking skills; foster empowerment in adult learners through voter participation; and produce a manual for increasing literacy skills through voter education.

Target Audience: The target audience for this project were learners and educators in adult literacy programs in need of practical, low level reading information and writing exercises about voting and elections.

Product: The MCOL produced the manual, *"Reading, Writing and Registering: Empowerment through Democracy"*.

Method(s) of Evaluation: The evaluation was determined by the extent in which the learners voted in the Primary Election; the collection of learning materials assembled for the production of the manual; and the response to staff development workshops.

Findings: Adult learners are interested in participating in activities that are relevant to their lives. They are capable of taking responsibility and making decisions to get what they need to know in order to exercise their rights as citizens.

Conclusions: The purpose of the project was to develop a learner driven model of voter education that literacy providers could adapt. The project successfully met its goal and objectives.

EMPOWERING LEARNERS THROUGH EDUCATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

Introduction

The principle of "one person, one vote" assures that all citizens have a voice in determining their destiny through electing representatives who can make their voices part of the public debate. We often hear that citizens do not exercise their right to vote. In too many cases, a lack of literacy skills hinders the abilities of adults to understand the process of voting. Nonparticipation due to inadequate literacy skills means that a significant portion of the citizenry is left without a voice in deciding critical issues that effect their everyday lives. Literacy skills play an important role in registering to vote, understanding written materials that explain candidates' views and operating voting machines. Literacy skills should not only increase participation but should engender empowerment. As *Literacy for Empowerment: A Resource for Community Based Educators,* a publication from the Association for Community Based Education, states: "Literacy for empowerment is literacy that enables learners to control and shape their lives. It is literacy that enables the learners to examine their personal, social, economic, and political situations in life."

As the central coordinating agency for adult literacy services for the City of Philadelphia, the Mayor's Commission on Literacy (MCOL) recognized the need to foster empowerment for adult learners with low literacy levels by developing a collection of learner relevant educational materials around voter education. These materials focused both on the structural elements of voting and materials about the candidates for elective office.

The MCOL built on the experiences of the Susquehanna Valley Adult Literacy Cooperative's "Politics in 1988...Getting Ready to Vote" project. While that project produced a set of basic materials for voter education in their service area, the MCOL's project, **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process,"** was driven by learner input. These activities created opportunities for learners to utilize critical thinking skills as well as basic reading and writing skills.

Adult learners enrolled in two community-based programs representative of Philadelphia's literacy network, Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) and ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania, participated in **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process."** The learners met a minimum of six times to discuss, plan and execute the implementation of this project. A manual entitled *"Reading, Writing, and Registering: Empowerment through Democracy,"* was produced based on the input of these adult learners. The collection of materials had a local component applicable to the Primary Election held on May 18,1993.

CWEP provides education to low income women and offers pre-employment and pre-training particularly appropriate for single parents or homemakers. Lynette Hazelton served as the program project coordinator at CWEP. ASPIRA's programs include Leadership Development, English as a Second Language instruction and GED preparation. Jennifer Garces, an ESL instructor, coordinated the activities at ASPIRA. The Mayor's Commission on Literacy's Director of Education, Ione Graves, was responsible for the specific execution of the project and the overall supervision of the project was conducted by Executive Director Donna Cooper.

The materials were developed from learner input and have two components. The first part followed a basic civics curriculum and the second

aspect focused locally on the Philadelphia primary election on May 18, 1993.

In addition to the curriculum and learning materials component of the project, literacy providers throughout the City were invited to regional staff development workshops entitled "Open The Doors of Democracy for Learners," on October 19, 20, 21, and 22, 1992, to share information about the project and ideas for working with adult learners around issues of voting. A second set of workshops was scheduled for April 29 and 30, 1993, at the Center City office of the MCOL. These workshops were advertised in the MCOL's quarterly newsletter, "Read On," and through flyers mailed to sites. (Attachment 1)

The audience most likely to utilize the materials and information developed from this project are learners and educators in adult literacy programs. Practical, low level reading information and writing exercises about voting and elections will be invaluable for all basic education learners, particularly those most disenfranchised: the homeless, parolees, probationers, recovering substance abusers, and English as a Second Language learners.

One of the cornerstones to adult learning is that the content is relevant to the learners lives. The most innovative aspect of **"Empowering Learners Through Education in the Democratic Process"** is the process that allows learners to shape the framework and content of the project. It is important to recognize that time is the most compelling element in a learner driven project. Unlike a prescribed curriculum, the process is part of the product and is not always easily tailored to fit a brief timeframe. Unforeseen dilemmas such as the unfamiliarity of participants with the concept of learner responsibility in the decision making process regarding project content, irregular attendance patterns and limited time for participation beyond regular class time, challenged the delivery of aspects of the project.

This final report is filed with the Department of Education, Bureau of Adult Basic and Literacy Education, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333; AdvancE East, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126–0333; West Pennsylvania Literacy Resource Center, 5347 William Flynn Highway, Route 8, Gibsonia, PA 19544, and ERIC.

Statement of the Problem

Adult literacy learners traditionally do not vote in large numbers. In too many cases, they do not exercise their right to vote because a lack of literacy skills hinders their ability to understand and participate in the voting process. The lack of participation by adults with inadequate literacy skills means that a significant portion of our citizenry is left without a voice in deciding critical issues that effect their everyday lives.

Objectives

The goal of **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process"** was to develop a collection of learning materials selected/prepared by learners from local adult literacy organizations in Philadelphia that focused on elections and the voting process and would encourage learners to utilize a range of skills, including sight word recognition, whole language techniques, writing skills and, most importantly, critical thinking skills. The specific objectives were to:

- *Develop learner relevant educational materials to stimulate basic literacy and critical thinking skills;*

- *Foster empowerment in adult learners through voter participation; and*

- *Produce "Reading, Writing and Registering: Empowerment through Democracy," a manual for increasing literacy skills through voter education.*

Procedures

As coordinator of **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process,"** MCOL's Director of Education's responsibilities were to convene weekly meetings with the groups of learners and teachers and use the input to develop the outline for a package of materials; gather information from election organizations; present this material to the groups for final input for the production of the manual, *"Reading, Writing and Registering..."*; disseminate the manual to adult educators through staff development workshops, PDE workshops and PAACE; and collect feedback, compile results and submit reports.

A collection of voter education materials selected and prepared by actual learners increased opportunities for learners to participate in decisions which effect their lives while adding to learners' life skills and improving their basic reading and comprehension skills. Because these materials were developed from a learner perspective, they should have applications for other adult learners.

The MCOL invited two community based organizations to participate in **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process."** The program directors from Community Women's Education Project and ASPIRA, Inc. of PA met with the MCOL to determine each organization's commitment to recruit learners and teachers for the project, as well as schedule

time for planning and implementation It was agreed that incentives for participation would include certificates signed by the mayor, newspaper articles, an essay contest, a field trip and special recognition ceremonies. Because the direction of the project was contingent upon learners' input, it was not possible to structure the process in advance.

MCOL's Director of Education then conducted initial meetings with a group of basic education learners and teacher from CWEP and English as a Second Language learners and their instructor from ASPIRA to introduce them to the project. Literature gathered from area organizations such as the League of Women Voters, Philadelphia's Committee of Seventy, the County Board of Elections, the City Commissioner's office, and the candidates for elected office was presented as background information to the learners. The orientation included a project overview and timeline but, most importantly, it was an opportunity to meet and listen to the voter participation concerns of the learners.

Several common themes emerged from discussions with each group during the first session. The process of registering to vote in advance of an election and the fear of using a voting machine were explored as barriers to voter participation. Also, learners believed that elected officials ignore the needs of poor and minority communities and that community residents have no knowledge of the views and intentions of candidates.

The group from ASPIRA consisted of twelve adult female English as a Second Language learners and their instructor. Their ESL class met Monday through Friday for 3 hours. Initially, they decided to devote one class period per week for a minimum of six weeks to the project; however, they actually met at least a dozen times. Generally, the sessions were conducted in both English and Spanish. As the discussions got heated, the language of the learners reverted to Spanish.

Five adult females and their communications instructor from the basic education program at Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) met six times to shape their contribution to the project.

Although the two groups of participants met separately to plan and to execute the project, two events were executed collaboratively. Discussions on the barriers to voting concluded that fear of the actual voting booth was a major handicap. It was decided that both groups would benefit from seeing the voting booths used by the city. The plans for the MCOL to supply participants with a scale model of a voting booth or to have the participants build a replica of a booth themselves could not be accomplished. Instead, a visit to the city's facility where the booths are stored was arranged through City Commissioner Alexander Talmadge's office.

Another topic of discussion common to both groups was the perception of a lack of connection and interest between elected officials and candidates for political office and poor minority communities. Participants decided to invite the candidates for local offices to a pre -election forum at ASPIRA to address issues of concern to participants and community residents.

The ESL instructor at ASPIRA and the twelve Spanish speaking members of her class to devoted an hour of class time every Tuesday to the project. Generally, the discussions generated such enthusiasm that the sessions continued beyond the allotted time. Once the learners understood that they could determine the direction of the discussion their level of participation increased. The format that evolved for the sessions began with a discussion topic followed by a dialogue in English that was practiced through role play, and culminated with a brief computer assisted writing assignment. The project coordinator dispersed campaign literature and other election related information as well. The following themes dominated most sessions:

comparisons of learners' political involvement in Puerto Rico to the lack of involvement in Philadelphia; barriers to voting in the U.S.; and alienation from local/national candidates. Learners also expressed interest in acquiring information about politics in their neighborhood.

Prior to the project, four out of twelve learners were registered to vote and had voted in the November 1992, election. The others had never voted in an American election. As a consequence of the discussion about barriers to voting, the group decided that it would be beneficial to have a hands-on experience with a voting booth.

The CWEP participants were invited to join the ASPIRA group on the field trip to the city's storage facility where the voting booths are kept when not in use. A member of City Commissioner Talmadge's staff and the facility's manager conducted the tour. Although the city uses 3 types of voting booths, a member of the group with artistic abilities drew a rendering of the booth most often used in their community, which was then shared with the other participants and included in the manual. (Attachment 2)

The Commissioner's office provided information booklets, customized for each learner according to her address, that contained a description of elected officials' duties, party structure and qualifications, maps, and important municipal and hotline telephone numbers.

At subsequent meetings, the learners indicated a lack of confidence in the ability and commitment of local candidates to represent learners' interests. To challenge the perception of indifference, the learners planned a "town meeting" forum for the Saturday prior to the May 18th primary election. The candidates for district attorney, city controller, justice of the supreme court and many other judgeships were sent letters requesting their presence to present their views and respond to questions and concerns from the project participants

and community residents. The Republican and Democratic candidates for district attorney and city city controller, several judicial candidates, and representatives from a city councilman's office appeared at the event. (Attachment 3)

During their meetings, the ASPIRA team developed lessons for the manual around the following topics:

- How to Register to Vote;
- How to Use a Voting Machine; and
- Talking About the Candidates for the Primary Election.

The lessons consisted of an English dialogue relevant to a voter participation topic, created by the instructor. The learners then practiced through role play scenarios. Lively discussions followed, with learners often lapsing into Spanish as the subject matter became increasingly emotional. The sessions culminated with each learner writing a brief journal entry in English on the computer.

While the participants were informed of the Essay Contest at the beginning of the project, they eventually chose to not to compete in a contest but to write essays in Spanish rather than English, because they felt more capable of expressing their opinions in their native language. (Attachment 4)

Over the course of six meetings, the five basic education learners and their communications instructor from Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) examined several factors which they felt would help increase voter participation for those with lower levels of literacy and non-English speakers. They concluded that a significant information gap exists between the jargon laden textbook type of information available, the entertainment type news coverage and overly complicated debates, which frustrates learners and probably accounts for low voter turnout.

The CWEP group concentrated on the voter registration card to determine how the information on it could be made more useful. Their suggestions for making the voter registration card more relevant were to:

- Enhance the value of the card by making it a photo identification card;
- Make the information available in Spanish and other languages on request;
- Make the ward/division information on the card clearer; and
- Update information on the voter registration card at each election.

The group also recognized the need for more useful and less technical explanations regarding the roles, duties and responsibilities of local elected officials as it impacts the lives of poor, inner city residents. It was suggested that a brief brochure in a simple format be made available for voters in several languages at polling places that includes the following:

- Ward and division information;
- A map of the ward and division;
- Name, address and duties of current elected officials for individual voters; and
- A list of commonly called City Hall telephone numbers.

The CWEP group consistently expressed a sincere desire to know quite sophisticated information about their elected officials and were critical in their assessment of the types of information available to them. In addition to their efforts to redesign the voter registration card into a more useful, informative identification tool, the group analyzed media coverage of the candidates and concluded that objective information about the candidates' record was lacking. Specifically, learners wanted to know what candidates can do to improve

neighborhood services in inner city communities.

As a result of their participation in **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process,"** the CWEP students compiled a list of suggestions that might improve voter participation in local elections:

- Begin with a redesigned voter registration card as a significant source of information;
- Rewrite information about city elected officials with the input of adult learners so that the information included is what they need to know to make informed choices;
- Convene a panel of learners during each election to scrutinize media information and give feedback so that the media informs, rather than frustrates learners;
- Create a library of political debate tapes, political commercials and other real life political information; and
- Develop techniques to use the above materials to improve voter literacy.

At the graduation/closing ceremonies for both programs, certificates of recognition signed by Mayor Ed Rendell were distributed to participants and several local politicians were in attendance as special guest speakers.

Objectives Met

At the onset of **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process,"** four female adult learners out of twelve, 33%, enrolled in an English as a Second Language class at ASPIRA, Inc. of PA were registered to vote and had voted in an American election. At Community Women's Education Project, two of the programs five adult female learners, 40%, were registered and had voted regularly since becoming of age. One had

experience working at polling places during elections and the other worked in the ward office in her community. Three learners had never registered. By the April 19th deadline for registering to vote in the May 18th Primary Election, eight learners and six relatives of learners from ASPIRA, and three learners from CWEP submitted registration applications to the City Commissioner's office. Each participant from both programs reported that she voted in the primary election, raising the voter participation level to 100%.

Although the 1993 Primary Election was anticlimactic to the 1992 Presidential Election, the greatest benefit of implementing the project around the primary election was that learners had an opportunity to become motivated and involved around issues that had direct and immediate effects on their lives. Learner realized that through their organizing efforts, candidates can be made accessible and accountable. They learned they had the power to require that candidates visit their community, listen to the residents' needs and work for their support.

Significant publicity was generated around **"Empowering Learners though Education in the Democratic Process."** The Philadelphia Daily News featured an article about ASPIRA's involvement in the project, accompanied by a photograph of members of the class practicing a skit about the May 18th Primary Election. (Attachment 5) Also, MCOL's Director of Education and the program directors and instructors from ASPIRA and CWEP were interviewed by a reporter from the Association of Community Based Education's newsletter for an article to appear in the fall issue about the project.

Because Saturday is considered a slow news day, no press covered the candidates forum held at ASPIRA on May 15, 1993. It was a newsworthy event nonetheless, since both Republican and Democratic candidates for district attorney and controller were unexpectedly present at the same time. The

candidates delivered their campaign speeches and answered questions from the learners and community residents about problems in the neighborhoods. The candidates also used the opportunity to sling barbs at one another.

Staff development workshops were advertised through fliers mailed to over 200 literacy sites and articles in MCOL's newsletter, *"Read On."* Despite a disappointing turnout for the workshops, those who were able to attend found them informative and useful. The materials and information can easily be replicated for future workshops. (Attachment 6)

Objectives Not Met

"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process," was initially proposed for implementation prior to the November 1992, election. However, the participating literacy programs were not in session during the summer of 1992 and did not resume classes until late September or early October, creating a recruitment and planning delay. By the time the project got underway in the winter of 1993, the Primary Election seemed less interesting and few election materials were available.

The concept of a learner driven project was slow to sink in with the learners. After a few sessions of general discussions about voter related topics, they grasped the concept and the project progressed.

It was not possible accomplish every aspect of the project in the designated time period. The essay contest was the most significant casualty. The contest was publicized through staff development workshops and fliers mailed to literacy sites. Often, during the sessions, project participants were reminded of the contest. However, no essay submissions were received by the

MCOL from the literacy community. As mentioned earlier, participants from ASPIRA chose to write essays in Spanish on the subject of voter participation in the United States and in Puerto Rico. CWEP participants met less frequently than ASPIRA and due to time constraints, preferred to analyze newspaper coverage of the candidates rather than write essays.

MCOL originally proposed that project participants build a life size replica of a voting booth that would allow participants and community residents an opportunity to practice operating a voting machine. This activity proved to be too ambitious for the time allotted and was replaced with a field trip to the city's storage facility where voting booths are maintained.

Evaluation

The learners achieved concrete benefits as a result of their participation in **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process."** They were able to exercise the most fundamental right of a citizen of this country and in the process, enhance their basic skills instruction. By participating in this project, learners were able to reinforce their commitment to improve their lives through education. Not only were they actively involved in the political process, many for the first time, they were able to utilize the reading, writing, speaking and critical thinking skills they have been learning in situations that have relevancy to their lives.

A total of seventeen adult learners participated in the project and each learner voted in the May 18th Primary Election. They also interacted with local political candidates and realized that the power to make politicians accountable was within their capabilities.

Lessons, materials and samples of learners' written work developed as a

result of the project was incorporated into the manual, *"Reading, Writing, Registering: Empowerment through Education."*

The staff development workshops were held prior to the completion of the manual *"Reading, Writing and Registering: Empowerment through Democracy,"* so that literacy providers could be given materials to work with adult learners in conjunction with the November election and the May 18th Primary Election. The content of the workshops consisted of an update on the project; tips on how to use *The Savvy Voter,* produced by the Philadelphia Daily News; and ideas for working with adult learners on voting and election issues.

Conclusions

The purpose of **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process,"** was to develop a learner driven model of voter education that literacy providers could adapt based upon the principle stated in a publication from the Association of Community Based Education:
"Literacy for empowerment is literacy that enables the learners to control and shape their lives. It is literacy that enables the learners to examine their personal, social, economic, and political situations in life." The project was successful in the following ways:

- Every learner voted in the May 18th Primary Election;
- Learners provided input in the development of the manual, *"Reading, Writing and Registering..."* ;
- Learners interacted with local officials, politicians and candidates regarding issues important to them and their community;

- Publicity was generated for the programs and individuals who participated in the project; and
- A connection between the programs and individuals and local politicians was established for future contact.

The project established a foundation for future political involvement for ASPIRA , Inc. of PA and Community Women's Education Project. ASPIRA plans to continue the project by training the participants to become mentors for an incoming group of English as a Second Language adult learners to help them prepare for the November 1993 Election, and by hosting a Town Meeting with the candidates prior to the election. CWEP learners intend to closely monitor newspaper coverage of the election and adapt the information in a clear, logical manner so that the information covers what they need to know to make informed decisions.

Procedures for Distribution

As the coordinating body of a network of over 220 literacy agencies, the Mayor's Commission on Literacy will use its established vehicles for communicating with the literacy community regarding the availability of *"Reading, Writing, Registering: Empowerment through Education."* Copies will be available to teachers and tutors through the Reader Development Program of the Free Library of Philadelphiaas well as the Resource Room at MCOL.

The MCOL will propose presenting workshops on the process of implementing **"Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process,"** and the development to the manual at the 1993 fall regional workshops held by the Department of Education and the PAACE conference in 1994.

ATTACHMENT 1

Voter Education Staff Development Workshops

Help Your Learners

to Understand Elections and the Voting Process

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy will present a series of sessions on elections and the voting process for adult literacy teachers and tutors. These sessions will present tutors with materials and ideas for working with adult learners on voting and elections and give you the chance to share your ideas with us.

The sessions will take place at the following locations:

Monday, October 19, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Marcia E. Brackeen Center
Phillipian Baptist Church
5801 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19141

Tuesday, October 20, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Northwest Regional Library
68 West Chelten Avenue
(Greene Street & Chelten Avenue)
Philadelphia, PA 19144-2795

Wednesday, October 21, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
YMCA Academy
4601 Haverford Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19139

Thursday, October 22, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Houston Community Center
2027 South Eighth Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148

Monday, October 26, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Berean Presbyterian Church Literacy Center
Broad and Diamond Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19121

Make sure your learners know how to vote.
Call the MCOL at 875-6602 to register for these sessions.

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy, working with learners and teachers from Aspira and the Community Women's Educational Project, will present a staff development workshop on the electoral process.

This workshop will focus on methods for how you can help your learners write about and participate in the democratic election process.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

OPEN THE DOORS OF DEMOCRACY FOR YOUR LEARNERS

Thursday, April 29, 1993
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

or

Friday, April 30, 1993
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Workshops will be held at
the Mayor's Commission on Literacy
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor

Please register by calling
875-6602

In addition to the workshop, the MCOL is also sponsoring an Election Essay Contest for adult learners in Philadelphia.

The essay question for non-ESL learners is "Why is this election important to me, my family, or my community?"

The essay question for ESL learners is "Why are elections in this country as important to me as elections in my homeland?

Essays should be approximately 250 words and must be legible. Deadline for entries will be May 14, 1993

Don't forget...
Spring primary
May 18th!

24

Helen Andrews Named Sixth Annual Ruth Yudof Award Winner

The following is the text of a speech presented by Helen Andrews, the recipient of the sixth annual Ruth Yudof award last September. This award is given annually to an individual who shows warmth, caring, determination, and exemplary commitment to the field of adult literacy.

First giving honor and praise to my Lord and Savior, who is first in my life, good evening everyone.

This is a blessing and an honor to accept the Ruth Yudof Award. There is much honor in receiving this award, and I would like to thank God, and all of you who have acknowledged my sincere concern and dedication to adult literacy.

Reading and writing are a necessity in today's world. There are numerous levels to an adult's education which should be considered. Literacy is sometimes misplaced, due to circumstances beyond one's control; this captivates my motivation and commitment totally to adult literacy.

We are all God's children. My primary aim is geared towards helping people; to teach adult learners how to enhance his or her reading and writing skills, and to accomplish his or her goals, so that he or she may make decisions, to take on the challenges of today's world with confidence. It is not so much as to making a living, but also forming and developing a person's character. One is never too old, or too young to learn.

Realizing the level of my responsibilities, my commitments are from my heart, and I need no thanks or praise for my willingness, for doing what the Lord commands me to do. Hard work is easy when your efforts are benefitting someone you are helping. Because my abilities enable me to enjoy helping others, this brings about a peaceful and happy attitude within my heart.

I would like to thank our Mayor, the Mayor's Commission on Literacy, Philip Morris, and my fifteen tutors located in the YMCA's reading site for their dependable support.

Phillippians 4:13 says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." May God bless you all—thank you!

Helen Andrews, recipient of the 1992 Ruth Yudof Award receives congratulations from Mayor Edward G. Rendell

OPEN THE DOORS OF DEMOCRACY FOR YOUR LEARNERS

Thursday, April 29, 1993
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

or

Friday, April 30, 1993
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy, working with learners and teachers from Aspira and the Community Women's Educational Project, will present a staff development workshop on the electorial process.

This workshop will focus on methods for how you can help your learners to write about and participate in the democratic election process.

In addition to the workshop, the MCOL is also sponsoring an essay contest for adult learners in Philadelphia.

The essay question for non-ESL learners is "Why is this election important to me, my family, or my community?"

The essay question for ESL learners is "Why are elections in this country as important to me as elections in my homeland?"

Essays should be approximately 250 words and must be legible. Deadline for entries will be May 14, 1993

Watch for further details!

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PHILADELPHIA
P.O. BOX 53480 • PHILADELPHIA, PA 19105 • (215) 977-9488

May 10, 1993

Ms. Ione Graves
Director of Education
Mayor's Commission on Literacy
1500 Walnut Street
18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Ms. Graves:

It was a pleasure seeing you again and attending your workshop, "Opening the Doors of Democracy", on Friday, April 30th. I am certainly glad that you decided not to cancel the workshop because I found it very interesting and informative.

Please feel free to contact me at the League office, (215) 977-9488 or at home, (215) 247-7359, should you need any additional information or, if I can be of any further assistance.

Again, thank you for your interest in my career pursuits. I look forward to seeing you at future seminars.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Kemp, Director
Public Relations
League of Women Voters of Philadelphia

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization which seeks to encourage informed and active citizen participation in government

ELECTORAL PROCESS STAFF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP EVALUATION
Friday Afternoon, April 30, 1993

Please take the time to complete this **Evaluation Survey** of today's Workshop. You should circle the score that describes the significance of the information on you and your organization. Your responses are important in developing future MCOL staff development workshops.

Utilize the following scale: **1** = information of little significance to me and my organization (low score)
5 = information very significant to me and my organization (high score)

"Open the Doors of Democracy for Your Learners" - Ione Graves, Mayor's Commission on Literacy

1 **2** **3** **4** (**5**) **No Opinion**

Comments: Thanks For All the Materials!

Your thoughts, ideas and opinions are sought for these next questions.
(Use the back of this sheet for more space for your answers.)
How will this workshop reshape your practice in teaching/training/tutoring adults?
It has raised my awareness of the electoral process in Phila. and familiarized me w/ materials on this process.

Is the electoral process a topic that will be helpful for you/your agency? Explain.
Yes. It is of paramount importance to any adult ed. organization!

Were there particular presentations or activities on which you would like to comment?

(OPTIONAL) **NAME:** Bridget Penny **ORGANIZATION:** Center For Literacy

Please return to Mayor's Commission On Literacy
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ELECTORAL PROCESS STAFF DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP EVALUATION
Friday Afternoon, April 30, 1993

Please take the time to complete this **Evaluation Survey** of today's Workshop. You should circle the score that describes the significance of the information on you and your organization. Your responses are important in developing future MCOL staff development workshops.

Utilize the following scale: **1** = information of little significance to me and my organization (low score)
5 = information very significant to me and my organization (high score)

"Open the Doors of Democracy for Your Learners" - Ione Graves, Mayor's Commission on Literacy

1 **2** **3** **4** (**5**) **No Opinion**

Comments:

Your thoughts, ideas and opinions are sought for these next questions.
(Use the back of this sheet for more space for your answers.)
How will this workshop reshape your practice in teaching/training/tutoring adults?
It will aid in the development of written materials that are better suited for literacy learners.

Is the electoral process a topic that will be helpful for you/your agency? Explain.
Very much so. It is vitally important that learners be encouraged to exercise their political power.

Were there particular presentations or activities on which you would like to comment?
The Beatrix Potter Reading Guide and the other writing style samples are great.

(OPTIONAL) **NAME:** Pamela Kemp **ORGANIZATION:** EMAN Literacy Program & League of Women Voters of Phila.

Please return to Mayor's Commission On Literacy
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ATTACHMENT 2

Field Trip to Storage Facility for Voting Machines

March 22, 1993

Alexander Talmadge, Jr.
City Commissioner
City Commissioners Office
City Hall Room 132
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Commissioner Talmadge:

Thank you so much for agreeing to meet me and approximately 20 adult learners from two literacy programs on Friday, April 2, 1993, at the storage facility where the voting booths are kept.

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy received a federal grant entitled "Empowering Learners through Education in the Democratic Process," to work with learners from ASPIRA, Inc. and Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) to produce learning materials that focus on the Primary Election in May.

The learners from ASPIRA and CWEP determined that a major obstacle to voting is fear of using the official voting booth. By becoming familiar with the booth prior to the election, the fear is diffused. Learners intend to build cardboard replicas of the voting booth for their respective sites so that classmates and community residents can practice using it in advance of the election.

MCOL will also conduct staff development workshops for other literacy agencies to share the information and materials generated by this project.

Enclosed are several copies of The Daily New's Savvy Voter, a supplement for the November election, that Tanya requested. Please note that this information is presented at about a fifth grade reading level. If your office is interested in developing similar material for the Primary, you may wish to have our staff work with you to ensure that the material is written at a suitable level.

We are looking forward to meeting you and learning more about the voting process and the work of the City's Commissioners Office.

Sincerely,

Ione L. Graves
Director of Education

Encl.

TO: ASPIRA & CWEP PARTICIPANTS IN THE VOTER EDUCATION PROJECT

FROM: IONE GRAVES, MCOL

DATE: March 23, 1993

SUBJECT: VOTING BOOTHS

We will meet City Commissioner Alexander Talmadge at the storage facility to look at the voting booths on:

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1993

10:00 A.M.

4700 Wissahickon Avenue

MEMORANDUM

To: Aspira & CWEP Participants in the Voter Education Project

From: Ione Graves, MCOL

Date: April 1, 1993

Subject: VOTING BOOTHS

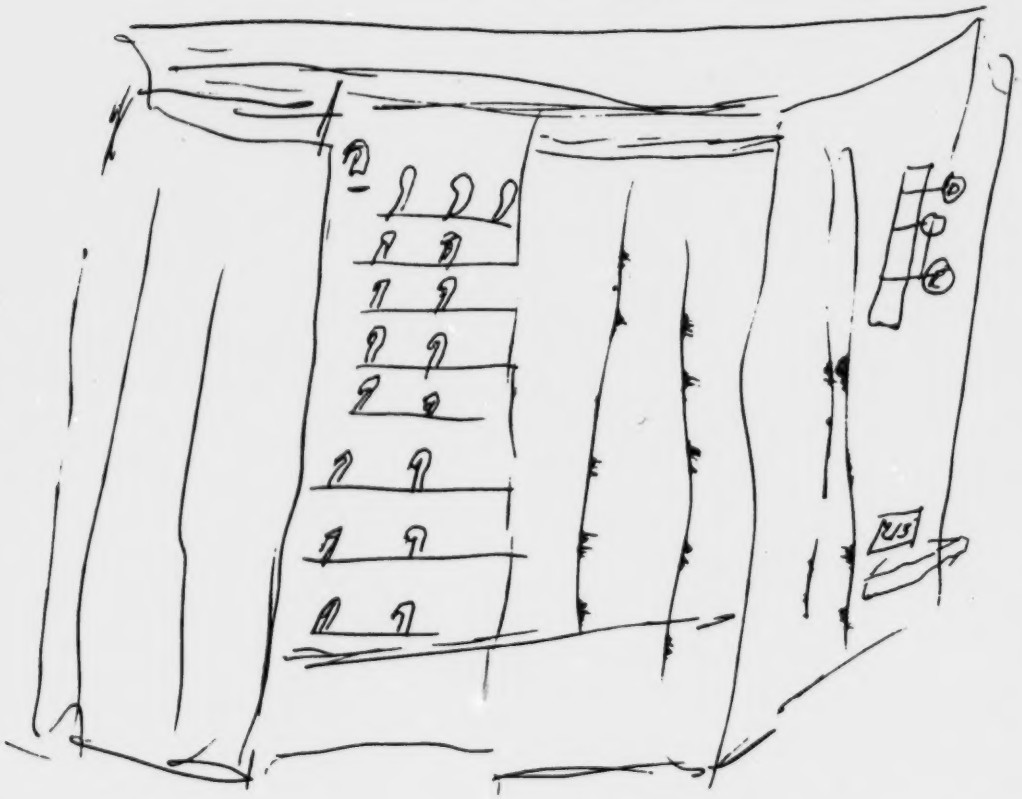
We will meet City Commissioner Alexander Talmadge at the storage facility to look at the voting booths on:

Wednesday, April 14, 1993

10:30 a.m.

4700 Wissahickon Avenue

the voting booth



New — used in W. Philly

ATTACHMENT 3

Candidates for the Primary Election

CANDIDATES-OFFICES
PRIMARY ELECTION
MAY 18, 1993

Please note: The following information was provided by a poor quality fax transmission. Some numbers were not clear. Be sure to check numbers for accuracy.

Office	Candidate	Party
DISTRICT ATTORNEY	Lynne Abraham 296 St. James Place 19103 District Attorney	Democrat
	Charles Cunningham 2702 Axe Factory Road 19152 Attorney	Republican
CITY CONTROLLER	Jonathan Saidel 411 Rear Kismet R Street 19115 City Controller	Democrat
	Herbert M.Linsenberg 1901 Walnut Street 19103 Attorney	Republican
JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT	Russell M. Nigro 1429 Locust St. 291 19102	Democrat Ward 8
	Mary Alice Duffy 612 One E. Penn Sq. 19107	Democrat Ward 46
	Doris A. Smith 434 W. Allens Lane 19119	Democrat Ward 9

	Nelson Diaz 332 W. George Street 19125	Democrat Ward 5
	Ron Castille 3680 Henry Ave. 19129	Republican Ward 38
JUDGE OF COMMON PLEAS	Lillian Ransom P.O. Box 44141 19144	Democrat Ward 12
	Chuck O'Donnell 2651 Dudley St. 19145	Democrat Ward 48
	Willis Berry, Jr. 1535 W. Girard Ave. 19130	Democrat Ward 47
	Leon Williams 327 S. 13th Street 19136	Democrat Ward 52
	John A. Manes, Sr. 2847 Winchester Ave. 19136	Democrat Ward 57
	D. Webster Keogh One East Penn Square 1514 19107	Democrat Ward 34
	Jacqueline F. Allen 5210 Rexford Road 19131	Democrat Ward 52
	Jack M. Myers 1725 N. 72nd St. 19103	Democrat Ward 34
	Deborah A. Cackowski 2406 Spruce 19103	Democrat Ward 8

Allan L. Tereskko 2613 E. Lehigh 19125	Democrat Ward 31
Rayford Means 5760 Nassau Rd. 19146	Democrat Ward 4
Richard Moore 406 S. 16th St. 19146	Democrat Ward 22
Steven Geroff 1015 One E. Penn Sq. 19107	Democrat Ward 58
John A. Manes,Sr. 2847 Winchester 19125	Republican Ward 57
Allan L.Tereskko 2613 Lehigh Ave. 19125	Republican Ward 31
Rayford A. Means 5760 Nassau Rd. 19107	Republican Ward 4
Steven R. Geroff 1015 One East Penn Sq. 19107	Republican Ward 58
Richard B. Moore 406 S. 16th Street 19146	Republican Ward 22
D. Webster Keogh One East Penn Sq. 1514 19107	Republican Ward 34

JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT	Chuck O'Donnell 2651 Dudley Street 19145	Democrat Ward 48
	Ronald J. Sharper 5354 Woodland Ave. 19143	Democrat Ward 51
	Felice Stack 1247 Southampton Rd. 19116	Democrat Ward 58
	William A. Neenan, Jr. 1717 Arch St. 37th Fl. 19103	Democrat Ward 58
	Felice Stack 12247 Southampton Rd. 19116	Republican Ward 58
	William A. Neenan, Jr. 1717 Arch St. 37th Fl. 19103	Republican Ward 58

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON LITERACY
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102
875-6602
FAX No. 735-6586

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Mayor

DONNA COOPER
Executive Director

May 10, 1993

Lynne Abraham
1604 Walnut Street Suite 200
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Ms. Abraham:

Thank you for agreeing to appear at ASPIRA, Inc. on Saturday, May 15th. The purpose of this forum is for adult participants in ASPIRA's English as a Second Language (ESL) program and the Kensington - based Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) to have an opportunity to meet and query the candidates running for election in the May 18th primary.

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy is coordinating a voter education project entitled "Empowering Learners Through Education in the Democratic Process," in conjunction with the two literacy agencies named above. The goals of the project are to foster empowerment through voter participation and to develop a basic civics curriculum for other literacy agencies to replicate. For many of the participants, this is the first time they have registered and plan to vote in an election outside of Puerto Rico.

We look forward to meeting you for an informative session. Please call me at 875-6602 to confirm that you will be able to attend. The details are:

Date	**May 15, 1993**
Place	**ASPIRA, Inc.** **2726 N. 6th Street (near Lehigh)** **229-1226**
Time	**2:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.**

Respectfully,

Ione L. Graves
Director of Education

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON LITERACY
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102
875-6602
FAX No. 735-6586

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Mayor

DONNA COOPER
Executive Director

May 10, 1993

Charles Cunningham
1600 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

Thank you for agreeing to appear at ASPIRA, Inc. on Saturday, May 15th. The purpose of this forum is for adult participants in ASPIRA's English as a Second Language (ESL) program and the Kensington - based Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) to have an opportunity to meet and query the candidates running for election in the May 18th primary.

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy is coordinating a voter education project entitled "Empowering Learners Through Education in the Democratic Process," in conjunction with the two literacy agencies named above. The goals of the project are to foster empowerment through voter participation and to develop a basic civics curriculum for other literacy agencies to replicate. For many of the participants, this is the first time they have registered and plan to vote in an election outside of Puerto Rico.

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Date	**May 15, 1993**
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Time	**2:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.**

Respectfully,

Ione L. Graves

Ione L. Graves
Director of Education

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON LITERACY
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102
875-6602
FAX No. 735-6586

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Mayor

DONNA COOPER
Executive Director

May 10, 1993

Herbert M. Linsenberg
1708 Locust
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Mr. Linsenberg:

Thank you for agreeing to appear at ASPIRA, Inc. on Saturday, May 15th. The purpose of this forum is for adult participants in ASPIRA's English as a Second Language (ESL) program and the Kensington - based Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) to have an opportunity to meet and query the candidates running for election in the May 18th primary.

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy is coordinating a voter education project entitled "Empowering Learners Through Education in the Democratic Process," in conjunction with the two literacy agencies named above. The goals of the project are to foster empowerment through voter participation and to develop a basic civics curriculum for other literacy agencies to replicate. For many of the participants, this is the first time they have registered and plan to vote in an election outside of Puerto Rico.

We look forward to meeting you for an informative session. Please call me at 875-6602 to confirm that you will be able to attend. The details are:

Date	**May 15, 1993**
Place	**ASPIRA, Inc.** **2726 N. 6th Street (near Lehigh)** **229-1226**
Time	**2:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.**

Respectfully,

Ione L. Graves

Ione L. Graves
Director of Education

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON LITERACY
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, Pa. 19102
875-6602
FAX No. 735-6586

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Mayor

DONNA COOPER
Executive Director

May 11, 1993

«Name»
«Address»
«City»

Dear «Dear»:

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy is coordinating a voter education project entitled "Empowering Learners Through Education in the Democratic Process," in conjunction with the two literacy agencies named below. The goals of the project are to foster empowerment through voter participation and to develop a basic civics curriculum for other literacy agencies to replicate. For many of the participants, this is the first time they have registered and plan to vote in an election outside of Puerto Rico.

As a candiate for judicial office in the May 18th Primary Election, please join us at ASPIRA, Inc. on Saturday, May 15th. The purpose of this forum is for adult participants in ASPIRA's English as a Second Language (ESL) program and the Kensington - based Community Women's Education Project (CWEP) to have an opportunity to meet and query the candidates running for election in the May 18th primary.

We look forward to meeting you for an informative session. Please call me at 875-6602 to confirm that you will be able to attend. The details are:

Date: **May 15, 1993**

Place: **ASPIRA, Inc.**
2726 N. 6th Street (near Lehigh)
229-1226

Time: **2:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.**

Sincerely,

Ione L. Graves

Ione L. Graves
Director of Education

Name	Address	City	
Lillian Ransom	P.O. Box 44141	Philadelphia, PA 19144	Ms. Ransom
Chuck O'Donnell	2651 Dudley Street	Philadelphia, PA 19145	Mr. O'Donnell
Willis Berry, Jr.	1535 W. Girard Ave.	Philadelphia, PA 19130	Mr. Berry
Leon Williams	327 S. 13th Street	Philadelphia, PA 19136	Mr. Williams
John A. Manes, Sr.	2847 Winchester Ave.	Philadelphia, PA 19136	Mr. Manes
D. Webster Keogh	One East Penn Square 1514	Philadelphia, PA 19107	Mr. Keogh
Jacqueline F. Allen	5210 Rexford Road	Philadelphia, PA 19131	Ms. Allen
Jack M. Myers	1725 N. 72nd Street	Philadelphia, PA 19103	Mr. Myers
Deborah A. Cackowski	2406 Spruce Street	Philadelphia, PA 19103	Ms. Cackowski
Allan L. Tereskko	2613 E. Lehigh Ave.	Philadelphia, PA 19125	Mr. Tereskko
Rayford Means	5760 Nassau Road	Philadelphia, PA 19146	Mr. Means
Richard Moore	406 S. 16th Street	Philadelphia, PA 19146	Mr. Moore
Steven Geroff	1015 One East Penn Square	Philadelphia, PA 19107	Mr. Geroff

PRESS RELEASE

Date: May 14, 1993

Contact: Ione Graves
438-8756

Invitation to Cover

Mayor's Commission on Literacy Election Education Day

At ASPIRA, Inc.

Where: ASPIRA Inc. of Pa. -- 2726 N. 6th Street

When: Saturday, May 15, 1993, 2:00-4:00 pm

The Mayor's Commission on Literacy and the adult education program of ASPIRA Inc. of Pennsylvania will host a **special primary election education open house to help newly registered Hispanic voters meet the candidates for the upcoming May 18th election.** The open house, from 2:00-4:00pm on Saturday, May 15 th will be held at ASPIRA, Inc., 2726 N. 6th Street (first block north of Lehigh). District Attorney candidates Lynne Abraham and Charles Cunningham, and City Controller candidates Jonathan Saidel and Herbert Linsenberg have confirmed their attendance. Candidate Russel Nigro for the Office of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court is also expected. All other candidates were invited and may attend.

ASPIRA Inc. and the Mayor's Commission on Literacy jointly sponsored an innovative voter education project which brought election education information into the basic education classroom. Over the last three months, the participants in ASPIRA's basic education classroom have registered to vote, learned to operate the voting booth and familiarized themselves with the election process. These adult students **will meet the candidates on Saturday at the open house and vote for the first time in Primary Election on Tuesday, May 18th.**

-30-

ATTACHMENT 4

Learners' Essays in Spanish

Rosa

La Política en Puerto Rico

Definitivamente la política en Puerto Rico es un evento de mucha importancia para el pueblo. Todo el mundo participa en una forma muy activa, dando información sobre los candidatos, promocionandolos en caravanas, asistiendo a las reuniones. En fin, todo lo que ~~activamente~~ se pueda hacer para que el día final, ~~en que se vaya~~ el día de la votación, todo el mundo sepa ya que es lo que verdaderamente quiere escoger para su beneficio y el beneficio de sus familias.

Familias completas pertenecen a un solo partido político como por tradición y, tratando de sacarle a esto el mejor provecho los más empapados en lo que está sucediendo con sus representantes en el partido de su preferencia orientan a sus demas familiares para que hagan una buena eleccion.

En Puerto Rico, ~~Todo~~ casi todo se conoce para quien los políticos, ~~Aún aquellos escándalos~~ a que en sus promociones en la televisión ~~pasados que hacen~~ y es ahí donde nosotros decimos que la política es muy caliente.

Todo es interesante en la política pues en nuestro pueblo le han dado tanto color a este evento que no pasan desapercibidos ni aún los líderes religiosos con sus opiniones sobre que es mejor para el pueblo.

Diferente cosa es la política de este país donde no sabemos ni quien esta votando el día del evento. Nadie comenta, nadie dice si fue a votar y mi pena más grande es que mis compatriotas ni siquiera saber donde deben ir a votar ni como votar. Me pregunto entonces, ¿hacer de herramienta de mi tierra que es verdaderamente la política? Saben los hispanos de este país todo lo que podríamos lograr si fuéramos a votar el día de elecciones.

Si yo pudiera pedir a nombre de todos mis compatriotas que en su tierra fueron tan activos en la política y que desearían poder participar también como un voto activo en elecciones y primarias de este país, pediría que se nos orientara más, se concientizara más acerca de la forma más efectiva en que usaremos la herramienta mas importante de este país para decidir nuestro futuro: "EL VOTO."

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Janet

Tema: Politica en Fuerto Rico.
Mi opinion sobre la política en Fuerto Rico. Mi primer voto lo gane en x partido. Es como una tradición, mi familia es partido pues uno sigue esa linea. La diferencia para mi del voto en P.R. y aquí es que en P.R. se mi idioma y aca pues es mas difícil por el problema del idioma una tiene dificultad para expresarse. Por eso nunca le votado aquí. Aunque me registré. Uno vota por un cadidato ese candidato se monta y despues se olvida lo que prometen mucho hablan y despues nada. Lo mas que me gusta de P.R. son las fiestas que se hacen cuando el partido x gana. Muchas personas dan la vida por su partido. Las fiestas también han ocasinado muertes y problemas entre vecinos. Se enojan por tiempo indefinido y cosas que en verdad a mi no me convense. En Philadelphia, yo no se sobre la política aunque en P.R. tampoco se mucho, pero algo es algo tradicional. Pero me gustaría saber sobre mis derechos y mis deberes en Philadelphia ya que ahora estoy estable viviendo aca. Pues quisiera saber mas sobre la política en Philadelphia.

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Mirta

En Puerto Rico, La política ex Puerto Rico es muy diferente a la de los Estados Unidos ya que en Puerto Rico la gente defiende sus derechos y el único modo de hacerlo es luchar por lo que uno quiere. La política es bonita si uno la sabe llevar y sobre todo ~~una~~ poder demostrar que las personas que uno elige para candidato son las personas que realmente esten capacitados para ejercer su candidatura. ya que nosotros los que trabajamos en los comites nos esmeramos y nos sacrificamos en sacar adelante a nuestros jovenes y poderles inculcar que el Voto es Derecho para poder ejercer nuestros derechos como ciudadanos y poder demostrar que somos capaces demostrar que somos un pueblo con derechos.Hay muchos candidatos que realmente hay que tener cuidado cuando uno va elejirlos.

En Puerto Rico todo es a base de politica si uno no pertenece a cierto grupo politico no tiene derecho a ciertos privilejios , ya que cuando nuestros candidatos suben al poder se olvidan de las promesas prometidas y estas son las consecuencias por las cuales la jente no quiere salir a 'Votar' ya que su candidato les 'Fallo' .

Antes salir a votar era un ogullo que uno sentia que estaba cunpliendo con uno mismo.hoy dia salir a votar es tan complicado que hay que tener celos de nuetros candidatos.

Pero con todo y sus diferencias hay que salir a 'VOTAR' ya que el 'VOTO es PODER' y nosotros como ciudadanos y principalmente como Puertorriqueños tenemos el derecho y lo vamos a lograr a luchar por nuestros derechos compatriotas

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salgan a votar aunque estemos en este estado, hay que cumplir con nuestros derechos por nuestros hijos y por nuestros derechos como ciudadanos.

Compatriotas no olviden que en sus manos esta el porvenir de nuestro pueblo vamos a inscribirnos para ejercer nuestros derechos , no importa cual sea su ideal politico lo importante es ejercer el voto.

Adelante gente a salir a VOTAR.

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Maria

Tema : Puerto Rico empesare por decirte que es bien interesante politica en P.R. es poder para algunas personas que son bien inconcientes de las necesidades de la clase podre que vive en la isla lamentablemente es muy triste decirlo yo lo he vivido y lo he sufrido en carne propia he visto como madre que tengo dos hijas en la escuela como es que no hay material en las escuelas en los hospitales no hay medicinas medicos; instrumentos en el departamento de cirugia y en muchos otros aspectos ;Las unicas personas que se venefician son los que empujan a otras personas a que suban al poder es una forma sucia de chantajear al pueblo de como oprimirlo ;Aqui en los ESTADOS UNIDOS yo personalmente desconosco como se utiliza la politica en PHILA;PANN pero me gustaria informarme de como funcionan para yo saber cuales son mis derechos y cuales son mis responsabilidades y si quiero votar para tener derecho a exigir; tambien me gustaria conocer cuales son los candidatos y que es lo que ellos ofrecen;que es lo que ellos van hacer por mejoral mi comunidad que esta perdida con las drogas el decenpleo y el alcoholismo.

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Gloria:

Yo nunca tuve la oportunidad de votar en mi país, Puerto Rico, pero en Puerto Rico es más diferente que aquí. Allá la tradición es muy diferente. Allá [illegible] votar allá es muy importante. En PR la gente se pelean por su partido. Allá si tu no eres de un partido no tienes un buen trabajo. Aquí yo nunca he votado, pues yo no se ni como hacerlo. Yo me acuerdo que mi mamá tenía una amiga, que era de diferente partido y su partido ganó y mi mamá se enojó con su mejor amiga por eso.

La política es igual siempre, prometen y prometen y luego cuando son electos se olvidan. Yo quisiera que los políticos se preocupen de las cosas mas importante, como por ejemplo el problema de las escuelas publicas; nuestros hijos no tienen una buena educación, especialmente los hispanos. Con razón nuestros hijos se dan debaja de las escuelas, y no es culpa de los maestro solamente, sino de todo el Distrito Escolar y del gobierno de este país.

Yo creo que si al hispano se le tuviera más en cuenta en este país , ellos se preocuparían de votar mas. Tenemos que saber y entender que es muy importante votar, para que así tengan en cuenta de nuestros derechos en este país o en cualquier sitio.

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Secundino

Para empezar le dire que el tema no me gusta para nada. De lo que yo me acuerdo es que todo en Puerto Rico ~~todo~~ es política .En Puerto Rico la gente se pelean unos a los otros. Muchas ~~gentes~~ personas votan por tradición y no por ideales. Desde principios del mes la gente emtiezan a hacer fiestas.Se hacen muchas campañas para los diferentes candidatos. Cuando un partido gana las fiestas son más grades.Comparando la política de aquí con la de Puerto Rico son muy diferentes. En Puerto Rico especialmente en los campos todos saben de que partido es cada persona. Aquí la gente casi no se sabe por quien vota cada persona. Aquí la gente es mas confidencia .

Me acuerdo que cuando yo estaba pequeña en unas elecciones ví a dos hermanos pelearse por los partidos. También me acuerdo que al frente de mi casa cogieron una pava viva y la pelaron viva y luego la quemaron viva. En una fiesta que dieron en el barrio los del partido popular quemaron un carro .Muchas personas votan por votar pero en verdad no saben lo que estar haciendo .No saben lo que estar haciendo .Si le preguntaran quien fue el alcalde electo en su pueblo no saben contestar porque solamente piensan en las fiestas que van a hacer .Aquí las personas se dedican más a ir a votar y no a fiestar como en Puerto Rico.En Puerto Rico la gente pelea más ,sin embargo los candidatos de diferentes partidos celebran el triunfo juntos en la Casa Blanca. La política debe ser menos violenta .Siempre es igual todos prometen y ningunos cumplen nada.No se ve mucho cambio y tantas promesas que hacen.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Miriam

Yo voto en vo PR por la tradición de mis padres porque aquí no me gusta porque no entiendo y siempre que vo voto aquí lo daño y me gustaría aprender a votar aquí porque es muy importante

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ATTACHMENT 5

Project Publicity

CAMPAIGN 93 WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1993

ANDREA MIHALIK/ DAILY NEWS

Luz Cintron (left) hugs Maria Morales after practicing a skit about voting in next Tuesday's primary

Learning to vote, in English

A language lesson for Latina electors

by **Ron Goldwyn**
Daily News Staff Writer

The dialogue was Spanish-accented and refully pronounced as Luz Cintron and Ma..a Morales recited lines yesterday in an English-as-second-language class exercise.

The topic was one most Philadelphians are noring: Voting in next Tuesday's primary ..ection.

"I am just a little worried about voting. This ·· my first time voting. If I can't find out how operate the voting machine, I could make a rrible mistake. I don't want my vote to go to waste," read Morales, 36, who moved back to Philadelphia from Puerto Rico (for the sec·id time) seven months ago.

"Hey, no problem!" responded Cintron, 36. "The first thing you have to do is to close the curtain by pulling a big lever located inside e booth."

T e script was written by instructor Jen..fer Garces to emphasize lessons learned by the dozen Latinas in their tour of the city's voting-machine warehouse. The women are natives of Puerto Rico; some have lived in Philadelphia for much of their lives, others for just a few months.

The class is conducted each week at Aspira, an education agency serving the Latino community from an old firehouse on 6th Street near Lehigh Avenue. It's a pilot program to tie voter education to literacy and English-as-second-language courses, according to Ione L. Graves of the Mayor's Commission on Literacy.

The state funneled a $19,090 grant through the Mayor's Commission for Classes at Aspira and at Community Women's Education Project in Kensington. The aim, Graves said, is to develop a civics curriculum, with help from the learners themselves, for other adult reading programs, starting next fall.

When the instructor's script was put aside, the women yesterday engaged in lively discussion, in both required English and still-comfortable Spanish, comparing *elecciones* in two places.

The women agreed that elections in Philadelphia — especially this one, which has generated little interest — are high-tech but passive. In Puerto Rico, elections are high-energy, paper-ballot affairs with noisy rallies, slow counts and fierce rivalries.

"It is very different," said Morales. "In Puerto Rico, when we go to the school [to vote] we do not find there any machines."

"I like voting in Puerto Rico because everybody knows what's happening," said Cintron. "We have arguments. In the *caravana*? — campaign — somebody throw a rock on my head because I am cheering for my party."

"You know what some people do?" said Juanita Rosario. "They don't vote here, but when it comes time to vote they go home to Puerto Rico."

See VOTING Page 19

VOTING

Continued from Page 5

Rosario, 43, is one of the class converts.

"I am living here 19 years. I never vote," she said. "I plan to vote this time, but I want to more know about the person I want to choose."

The women at Aspira all registered when the course began last winter. Their discussions shift to the graffiti and trash-strewn streets, the drugs, and government neglect of their neighborhood — and how voting offers hope for improvement.

"The politics in PR and everywhere are the same," said Morales. "If you don't go vote, you cannot go anywhere asking for anything."

Instructor Garces, who has been in Philadelphia five years, drew the lesson closer to everyone's new home.

"We're not there," she said. "We can do things for the community here. Our next step is to get ourselves acquainted with the candidates."

The class will do just that on Saturday, when they expect visits from all four candidates for district attorney and city controller.

"We want to know everything," said Rosario. "We are going to ask. ■

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READING, WRITING AND REGISTERING: EMPOWERMENT THROUGH DEMOCRACY

A MANUAL FOR ADULT LEARNERS

Submitted by:
Ione Graves, Director of Education
Donna Cooper, Executive Director
The Mayor's Commission on Literacy
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

1992-1993

PROJECT NUMBER 98-3006

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READING, WRITING AND REGISTERING: EMPOWERMENT THROUGH DEMOCRACY

A Manual for Adult Learners

Project Number: 98-3006

Grant Amount: $19,090

Fiscal Year: 1992-1993

Date Completed: June 30, 1993

Department of Education
Bureau of Adult Basic and Literacy Education
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126-0333

Mayor's Commission on Literacy
1500 Walnut Street, 18th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215-875-6602

Donna Cooper, Executive Director
Ione Graves, Director of Education

RECEIVED
DEC 03 1993
BUREAU OF ADULT BASIC AND LITERACY EDUCATION

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The purpose of "*Reading, Writing and Registering: Empowerment through Democracy*" is to help adult learners participate in the voting process through clear, easy to understand information.

Special thanks to the adult learners of ASPIRA, Inc. of Pennsylvania and Community Women's Education Project who participated in "EMPOWERING LEARNERS THROUGH EDUCATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS," Voter Education Project.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

Who may register?

Qualifications to Register in Pennsylvania:
YOU MUST . . . . . .

. . . be a U.S. Citizen at least one month before Election

. . . be a resident of Pennsylvania, your County and your Election District at least 30 days before the Election

. . . be 18 on or before the day after the coming Election.

REGISTER AND VOTE

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

If you are currently registered, have voted at least once during the last two calendar years. and have not moved, you do not have to reregister.

If you wish to vote in a Primary Election for a Political Party Candidate you must register in that Political Party.

You are not registered to vote until your application has been processed and accepted by the County Board of Elections; you will receive a Voter Identification Card.

This application must be received by the County Board of Elections thirty (30) days before the Election. ***Military categories may apply at any time.***

Your Voter Notification stub will be returned to you by non-forwardable mail. If it is not returned within ten (10) days, contact your County Board of Elections.

WARNING: The making of a false registration or the furnishing of false information is perjury, punishable by a fine of $1000 and or five years imprisonment, plus the loss of voting rights for ten years.

If you choose not to register by mail you have the right to register in person.

How do you register to vote?

Just follow these directions ➡

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

Pick up a Voter Registration Application from the City Commissioner's Office at City Hall.

Instructions for filling out the Voter Registration Application. (Read carefully)

Line 1. Please check appropriate box.

Line 2. Print last name, first name and middle initial. Check block for political party or no party affiliation.

Line 3. Fill in full home address. If apt., give number, letter or location. Print post office, zip code, city, boro or township. If home address is rural route or box number, include nearest cross street or road, or nearest church or public building. If you already know your voting district, include it in line 3 next to boro or township name.

Line 4. Print the county in which you live and the month and year you began to live at the above address. If military, give date you left residence. Give Birthplace (list state or territory. If outside U.S. give Country.) and date of Birth.

Line 5. For purposes of physical description, give sex, height, hair, eye and skin color. Answer questions about voter assistance, give reason and type of disability.

Line 6. If registered before, give year, name, former street, city, boro and township.

Line 7. If registered before, give former county, state and zip code.

Line 8. Any person assisting in the completion of this form must fill in his or her name and address.

READ REGISTRATION DECLARATION. SIGN YOUR NAME IN INK. ALSO PRINT YOUR COMPLETE NAME ON LINE PROVIDED. FOR PERSON MAKING MARK (X)....SEE LINE 9.

Line 9. For use only if applicant is not able to sign name, in which case, the mark must be acknowledged by an official who can administer an oath Notary Public, District Justice, etc

You may give your phone number. COMPLETE THE CARD AT RIGHT;

PRINT CLEARLY YOUR FULL NAME AND ADDRESS DO NOT DETACH

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

WORKSPACE

Write the words you do not know here. Check the Glossary at the end of this manual or a dictionary for help.

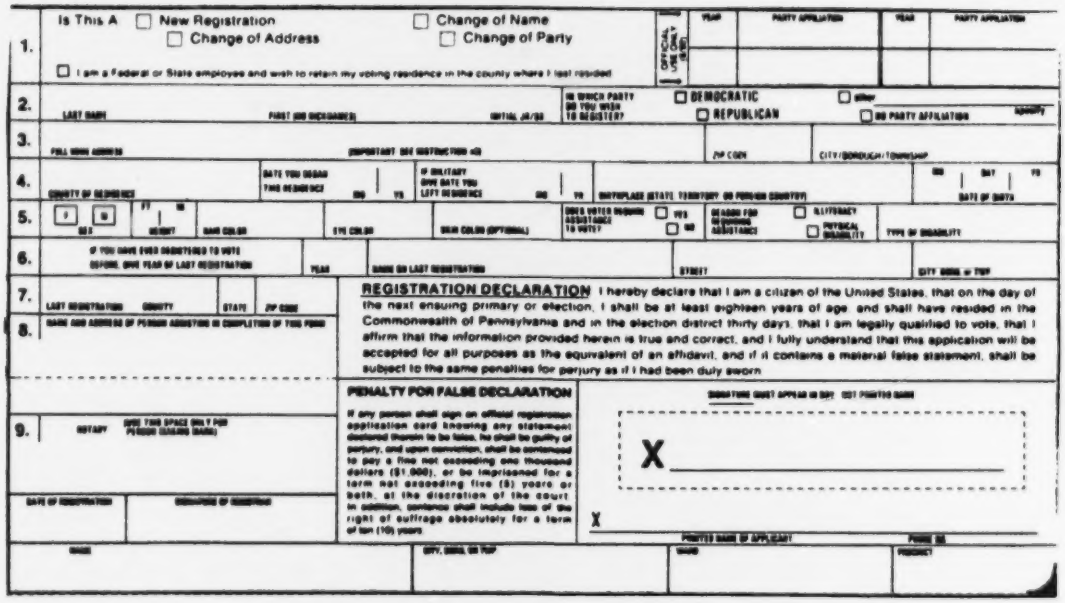
Write the questions you may have about the instructions for filling out the Voter Registration Application here.

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

Fill this out.

The Voter Registration Application


Is This A
New Registration
Change of Name
Change of Address
Change of Party
I am a Federal or State employee and wish to retain my voting residence in the county where I last resided
DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLICAN
NO PARTY AFFILIATION
REGISTRATION DECLARATION I hereby declare that I am a citizen of the United States, that on the day of the next ensuing primary or election, I shall be at least eighteen years of age, and shall have resided in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in the election district thirty days, that I am legally qualified to vote, that I affirm that the information provided herein is true and correct, and I fully understand that this application will be accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an affidavit, and if it contains a material false statement, shall be subject to the same penalties for perjury as if I had been duly sworn
PENALTY FOR FALSE DECLARATION
If any person shall sign an official registration application card knowing any statement declared therein to be false, he shall be guilty of perjury, and upon conviction, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars ($1,000), or be imprisoned for a term not exceeding five (5) years or both, at the discretion of the court. In addition, sentence shall include loss of the right of suffrage absolutely for a term of ten (10) years
X

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

WORKSPACE

Write the words you do not know here. Check the Glossary at the end of this manual or a dictionary for help.

Write the questions you may have about filling out the Voter Registration Application here.

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

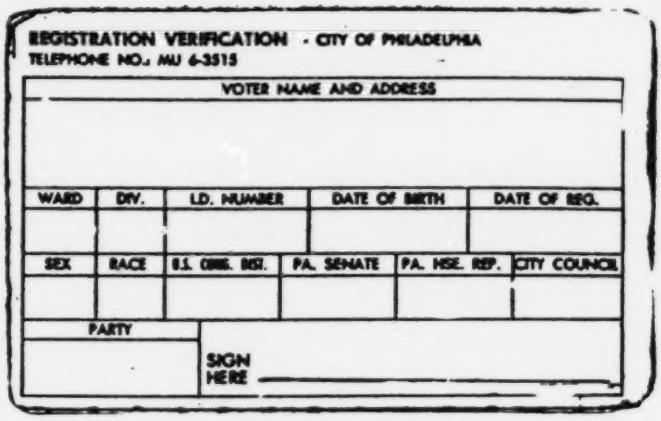
Mail the Voter Registration Application to:

SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

c/o VOTER REGISTRATION OFFICE

Riverview Place, 5th Floor
520 N. Delaware Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19123-9945

Several weeks later you will receive your Voter Registration Card. It look like this.


REGISTRATION VERIFICATION - CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
TELEPHONE NO.: MU 6-3515

VOTER NAME AND ADDRESS					
WARD	DIV.	LD. NUMBER	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF REG.	
SEX	RACE	U.S. CONG. DIST.	PA. SENATE	PA. HSE. REP.	CITY COUNCIL
PARTY		SIGN HERE			

Your name is now on the list of registered voters located at your polling place in Election Day.

Your are now eligible to vote!

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

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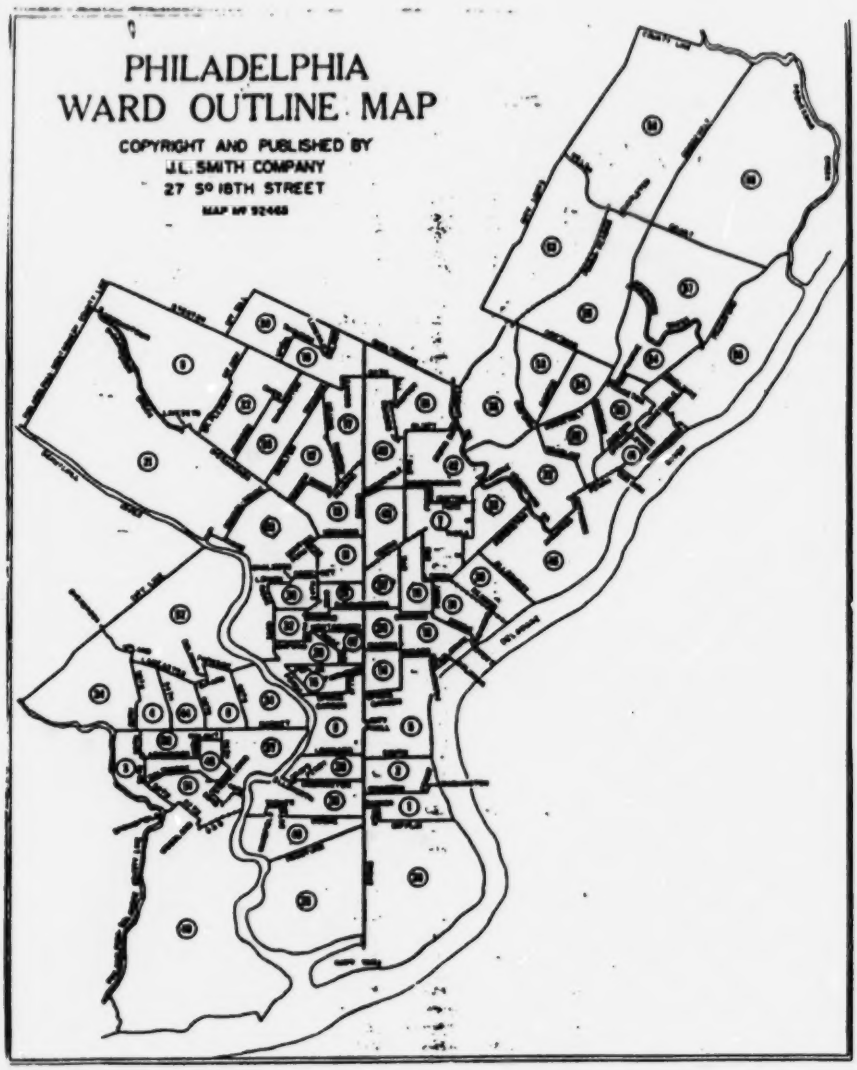
WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

This is a Ward Map. Your Ward is based on where you live.



FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE

WORKSPACE

What ward do you live in?_____

What Division do you live in?_____

Who is your Ward Leader?

_____

Who is your Committeeperson?

_____

Who is your City Councilperson?

_____

Who is your State Representative?

_____

Who is your State Senator?

_____

Who is your U.S. Representative?

_____

Who is your U.S. Senator?

_____

Where is your polling place?

_____

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ELECTIONS

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ELECTIONS

What are the different types of elections?

There are General, Municipal and Primary elections. They differ in the following ways:

General Elections are held in all even-numbered years on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November. These are for national and state offices.

Municipal Elections are held in all odd-numbered years on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November. These are for local and judicial offices.

Primary Elections are held on the third Tuesday of May in all years, except in Presidential election years, when they are held on the fourth Tuesday of April. These elections are held to nominate candidates for office and to elect party officials.

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ELECTIONS

Elections follow this four year cycle in Philadelphia.

Four Year Election Calendar

November 1992, 1996 GENERAL ELECTION	November 1993, 1997 MUNICIPAL ELECTION
President of the United States Vice President of the United States United States Senators United States Representatives Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Auditor General of Pennsylvania Senators of the General Assembly (odd numbered districts) Representatives of the General Assembly	City Controller District Attorney of Philadelphia Appellate Justices and Judges of Pennsylvania Courts Trial Judges for Court of Common Pleas, Municipal and Traffic Courts
November 1994, 1998 GENERAL ELECTION	**November 1991, 1995 MUNICIPAL ELECTION**
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Senators of the General Assembly (even numbered districts) Representatives of the General Assembly United States Senators United States Representatives	Mayor of Philadelphia Sheriff Register of Wills City Commissioners Clerk of Quarter Sessions Court City Councilmembers Appellate Justices and Judges of Pennsylvania Courts Trial Judges for Court of Common Pleas, Municipal and Traffic Courts

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ELECTIONS

WORKSPACE

Write the words you do not know here. Check the Glossary at the end of this manual or a dictionary for help.

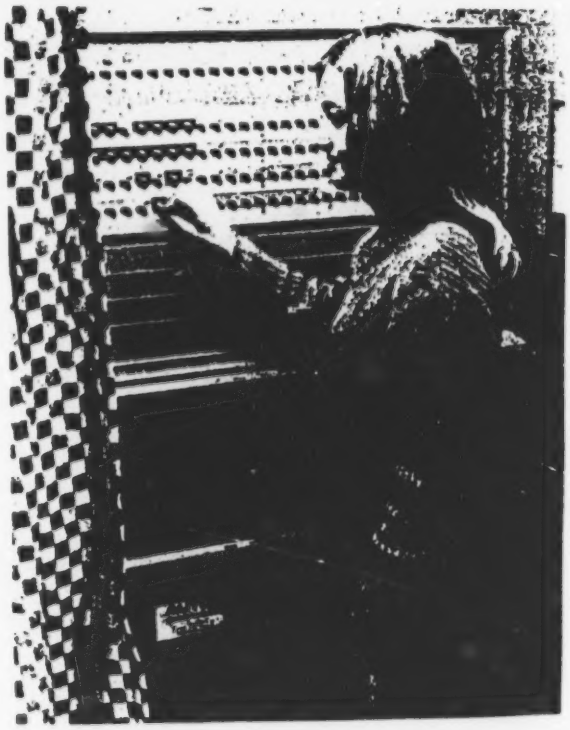
Write the questions you may have about elections here.

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING MACHINES

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING MACHINES

In the United States all voting is in secret.



Note that the curtain can be drawn.

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

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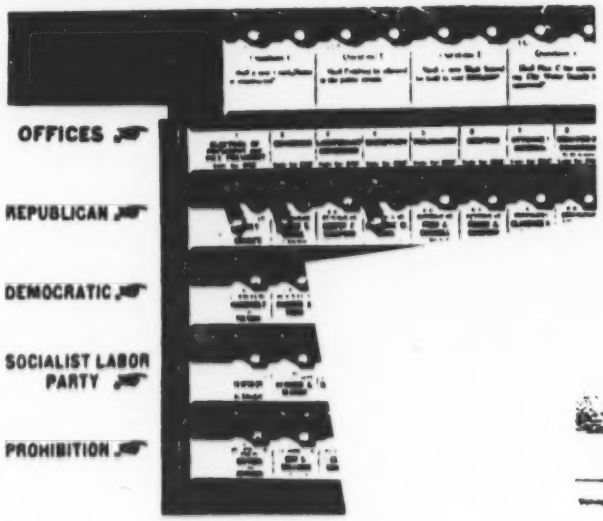
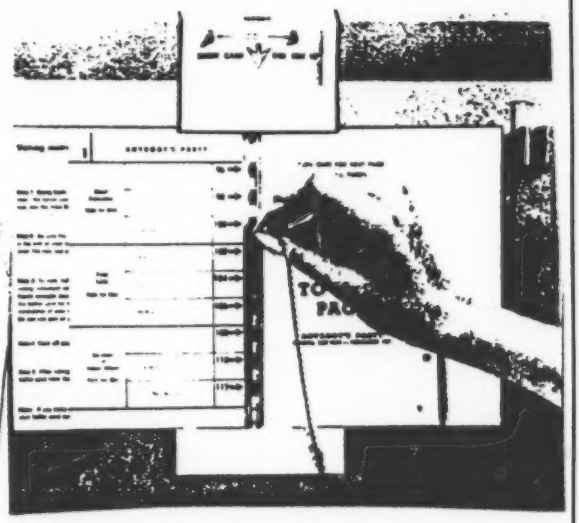
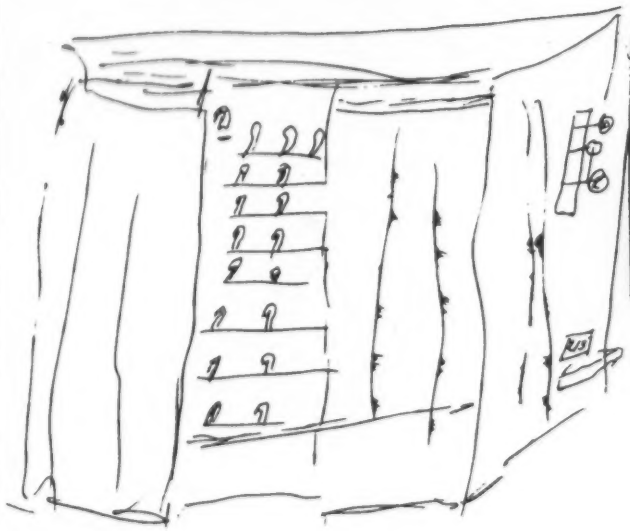
WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING MACHINES



There are several types of voting machines.





This is a sketch of the machine used often in North Philadelphia.

➡

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING

Reading, Writing and Registering
Empowerment through Democracy

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING

PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS
THE PEOPLE PAPER

Savvy Voter

Here are the facts you have to know ...

On election day the citizens are in charge. But only if they use the power to vote. Here is what voters can expect when they go to vote.

Where do I go to vote?

If you recently registered to vote, you should receive in the mail a card from the Board of Elections. This card tells your ward and division number.

If you have not received a card, call *686-1505* before election day to see what to do. (You don't need this card to vote).

Check the Daily News or Inquirer

Both newspapers will have a list of "polling places" — places to vote.

There are polling places for all 1,681 voting divisions in the city. They are in schools, stores, apartment houses, garages, public buildings and in some homes. Most people live within walking distance of the place where they vote.

You will not be allowed to vote in just any polling place. You MUST go to your own polling place.

How do I get ready?

Read the newspapers and listen to the candidates on TV and radio. You will also get mail from some of the candidates.

The campaign for president gets most of the attention. But there are many other offices and candidates on the ballot. It helps to make a list of the candidates you want to vote for. You can take this list into the polling place.

SUSAN WINTERS/ DAILY NEWS

Each of the city's 1,681 voting divisions has its own place to vote. The people above are at at Philadelphia Community College

When do I vote?

The polls — the voting places — are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You can go any time during those hours.

If you are waiting in line at 8 p.m., you will be allowed to vote.

What will it be like?

Outside the polling place, you may see people working for candidates for for the Republican or Democratic party.

They will probably be wearing campaign buttons. They might hand out some information.

This information usually shows the candidate's *lever* number. The *lever* is the handle that you pull when you vote. The number helps voters

Continued

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING

CONTINUED

THE PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS **Savvy Voter**

... to cast a vote and make a difference

Continued

find the candidate on the voting machine.

These workers might suggest who the voters should choose. But it is just a suggestion. You can vote for anyone you want.

On the wall outside the polling place is a big pink paper. It is called a sample ballot. It shows how the voting machine inside will look.

In Philadelphia, there are several kinds of voting machines: One lists the candidates' names *horizontally* — across. The other lists the names vertically — up and down.

It's a good idea to check the sample ballot to make sure where your favorite candidates' names are on the machine. (Candidates for Congress and the Legislature run in only part of the city.)

Inside the polling place

Campaign workers aren't allowed inside the polling place.

Those workers inside do not work for any candidates. They do not take sides. There should be no campaign posters inside.

You may have to wait in line a short time. When it is your turn, you will be asked to give your name.

A worker at a table will look it up in the *binder*, a big book.

(See another story on what to do if your name isn't in the binder.)

You are asked your name and address. That's to make sure you are voting in the right place and not voting more than once.

You will be asked to sign your name on a card. (If you said on your registration card that you could not sign your name, you will be allowed to make a mark.)

No one will know how you vote.

Inside the voting booth

Unless you registered as needing assistance to vote, you must go into the voting booth alone.

(If you need assistance, you may take anyone into the voting booth with you — a neighbor, friend, or member of your family).

You may take any papers you wish inside the booth.

Before you go into the booth you can see a sample ballot

On the upper left hand side of the voting booth are instructions: Move the handle or knob to the right and the curtain will close.

Then, pull down the levers next to the candidates you want to vote for. When you pull down a lever, you will see a black "X" or a red arrow.

Make sure the "X" or arrow is in the box of the person you want to vote for.

Splitting your ticket

You can vote for candidates from any party. It is okay to vote for a Democrat for one office and a Republican for another office. You can vote for candidates of other parties, too.

It doesn't matter which party you are registered in: You can vote for anyone on the ballot.

If you vote for people from different parties, it is called *splitting your ticket*.

It is possible to vote for all the candidates from one party all at once.

All candidates of one political party are listed in a single row. This year, the Democrats are in Row 1, Republicans in Row 2. Candidates from other parties are in other rows.

At the start of each row is one handle or knob. You can vote for all candidates in one party by pulling it. The politicians call this *the big lever*. If you pull down the party's lever, it pulls the levers for all candidates from that party. Workers for a political party may ask you to pull their big lever. But you don't have to do this.

You can pull the big lever, then change the vote on some candidates. Just lift up a candidate's lever, and you can vote for his or her *opponent*.

Finishing

If you make a mistake while the curtain is still closed, put the lever back to its original position. Then you can vote for another candidate.

Vote for just one candidate in each race.

If you have a question, you should just ask it out loud.

When you're finished, simply turn turn the handle or knob to the left. The curtain will open and all votes will be recorded. All the levers will return to their original position.

Don't turn that knob until you are finished. And don't reset the levers.

Once the curtain opens, you cannot go back or change a vote.

When you leave the polling place, someone may ask how you voted. You don't have to say unless you want to.

Congratulations.

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VOTING

WORKSPACE

Write the words you do not know here. Check the Glossary at the end of this manual or a dictionary for help.

Write any questions you have about voting procedures here.

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

NOW THAT YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT VOTING

NOW THAT YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT VOTING

Discuss or write your responses to the following questions.

- What is the purpose of a Primary Election?

- Do you need to vote in a Primary Election in order to vote in the November Election?

- How do you declare your party affiliation?

- When must you register to vote?

- How can you make an informed choice about candidates?

- How can you find answers to your questions about voting and elections?

FOR HELP CALL THE CITY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 686-3452.

GLOSSARY

BALLOT - The list of candidates on voting machines.

CAMPAIGN (Say it, kam-PANE) - This word can mean different things. It can be used to tell how a person tries to be elected: "She campaigns in every neighborhood." It can mean the race to be elected: "The presidential campaign ends Nov. 3.) It can also mean the people who run the campaign. "The Bush campaign said yesterday..."

CANDIDATE - A person who is running for political office.

ELECT - To pick by voting.

ELECTORATE - The people who vote.

ISSUES - Ideas to be talked about in a campaign.

MEDIA - radio, television, newspapers, magazines, and other means of mass communication.

NOMINATE - To choose someone to run for a political office.

NOMINEE - The person who is chosen by the party to run for a political office.

OPPONENTS - Candidates who are funning against each other for one political office.

PRIMARY ELECTION - An election held sometime before the general election in which voters can vote only for candidates in their own political party. The winners of primary elections become the candidates of their parties and run in the general election in November.

POLITICAL PARTY - An organization of citizens who have similar views on public issues and who work for the election of party members to public office.

POLITICS - The art of government. It comes from the Greek word *polis*, which means city.

POLITICIAN - A person who is involved in politics.

POLL - Place where votes are cast and counted.

REELECT - To elect someone to the same job he or she now has.

REGISTERED - Having one's name of a list or record of elegible voters.

REPUBLICAN - One of the two largest political parties in the United States; belonging to or favoring a republic.

REPUBLIC - A nation governed by elected representatives.

DEMOCRACTIC - One of the two largest political parties in the United States; favoring and practicing social equality.

CREDITS

Material for this manual was adapted from the following sources:

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Your and Your City, League of Women Voters in Philadelphia, 1976

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The Savvy Voter, Special Supplement, Philadelphia Daily News, October, 1992

Democracy in Action, Steck-Vaughn Co., 1984